

GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

VOL. 75, No. 16

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

March 8, 2012

City Manager Cites Property Tax Drops in Pre-budget Update

by Kathleen Gallagher

The Greenbelt City Council held two back-to-back work-sessions on Saturday, March 3 beginning at 10 a.m. The first meeting, attended by the full council, was an update from City Manager Michael McLaughlin on the city's financial and programmatic situation as the time approaches to set the municipal budget for Fiscal Year 2013. Also in attendance were Assistant City Manager David Moran and about 15 audience members.

McLaughlin will present his proposed FY13 budget for the City of Greenbelt at the regular city council meeting on Monday, March 26. Although the formal presentation used to be the first public step in a process that begins months earlier at the staff level, some years ago members of council asked that the manager give them a financial update and preview of any major budgetary issues in advance of the formal

presentation.

McLaughlin opened with the major news that although until late January the city was close to being on target with the current year's (FY12) budget, with both revenues and expenditures tracking slowly, the situation had changed fairly dramatically since then. It had been known earlier that real estate revenues would run \$350,000 less than anticipated in the FY12 budget, but it was expected that this loss could be offset by savings in expenditures. He said that it now appeared that the city's expenditures would exceed revenues due to additional commercial property tax abatements that had been received of more than \$300,000. He added that all but one of the office buildings in Capital Office Park has received substantial abatements for this fiscal year and the two prior years.

FY12 revenues may also be

down because a delay in the implementation of the speed camera program will likely mean that the \$200,000 in budgeted revenues from this source will not be met. In total, the delay in the initiation of camera revenue and real estate abatements would account for about \$800,000 in lost revenue.

McLaughlin said that in most other areas revenues were running as budgeted, including corporate personal property taxes, hotel/motel taxes and highway user fees. Income tax is running below budget. Income from fines and forfeitures is also lower than normal because of vacancies in staff positions that have only recently been filled.

Fortunately, expenditures have also been running low so far this year. Some of the savings are attributable to retirements and reduced overtime and benefit costs

See **BUDGET**, page 9

A Review

Hollywood Timidly Told Story That Happened in Greenbelt

by James Giese

The determination by the U.S. Department of the Navy that three or possibly five Greenbelt employees in the same department were security risks in 1953, all Jewish, is an important episode in Greenbelt history. It should be documented in greater detail. Articles by Anthony Lewis in the now defunct Washington Daily News focusing on the appeal by Abraham Chasanow of his designation as a security risk gave the episode national publicity, earning Lewis a Pulitzer Prize.

These articles were not only about Chasanow, however, but about Greenbelt. How many other small cities can boast of being the good subject in Pulitzer Prize-winning articles?

How many towns can boast of playing a significant role in a major Hollywood movie starring notable actors like Ray Milland and Ernest Borgnine, even when the story was fictionalized?

On February 10 an unusually large crowd of 50 persons attended a regular Friday afternoon session of Explorations Unlimited to see the movie "Three Brave Men," the fictionalized account of Abe Chasanow's suspension and termination from the Navy Department, the support he received from people in his community and the eventual clearing of his name and reinstatement. A brief discussion, led by Jim Link, followed the movie.

The Episode

To recap the actual historic event and movie: as many as five Greenbelt men, all Jews and all Navy employees, were suspended as security risks in 1953, during the peak of hysteria over fear that adherents of Communism were determined to subvert and overthrow our country's democratic form of government. Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy notoriously fanned the flames of fear, making wild accusations of Communist infiltration of the government, most lacking any evidence of truth.

Of the three men identified, Michael Salzman reportedly moved away from Greenbelt and it is unknown (at least to me) what became of him. The other two, Isadore Parker and Chasanow, continued to live in Greenbelt, fought the Navy actions and were eventually exonerated. Because of the series of articles Lewis wrote, Chasanow's cause became highly publicized. Due to this publicity, plus the waning of the influence of McCarthy who was eventually discredited, the Navy Department backed down, reinstating the two men.

Greenbelt's Role

The City of Greenbelt played a significant role in the story. Some of the people who denounced these men were from Greenbelt, possibly co-work-

ers, since some 13 Greenbelters worked in the U.S. Hydrographic Office in Suitland. (Janet Parker, then-wife of Isadore, who attended the movie discussion, described employee upset at not being sent home on hot days from non-air conditioned offices.)

Exactly who made the accusations is speculative – not known either to those accused or to the public.

Chasanow had played a particularly controversial role in formation of the housing cooperative, Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation (GVHC, now Greenbelt Homes, Inc.). As an attorney, he had helped the cooperative to organize, then becoming GVHC's secretary on its board of directors.

Many residents did not support the cooperative's acquisition of most of the housing built and owned by the federal government. Some did not or could not afford to buy into the co-op, wishing to continue paying the low rents they had enjoyed under government ownership. There came a time when those refusing to join the co-op had to move out to make room for co-op buyers and Chasanow, as secretary, sent out the eviction notices.

But the town came around to support Chasanow and Parker. In this, they were led by the

See **MOVIE**, page 6

Women's History Month

March is Women's National History Month. In observance, the News Review this week is running one of the monthly articles by Sandra Lange which explores the role of women in the early days of Greenbelt.

75th Anniversary

For 75 Years Greenbelt Women Molded City Life

by Sandra A. Lange

Greenbelt's pioneer women were strong, independent leaders who greatly influenced the political and social life of the town. Six weeks after the first town residents moved to Greenbelt in 1937 they established a Journalistic Club and adopted a plan to print six weekly journals.

The Greenbelt Cooperator (the name changed to News Review in 1954 to clarify its independent status) printed community news, often by and about women. There was a "Poison Ivy" column to air gripes and a Mrs. Greenbelt section including recipes, editorials and news stories of interest to women.

Female journalists comprised much of the editorial, proofreading, copy editing and reporting staffs although they had to quit often for periods of time when they became pregnant. During the paper's first 25 years there were eight female editors includ-

ing one, Virginia Beauchamp, now 91, who was editor in 1962 and is still on staff today.

Women ranging in age from their mid-20s to mid-80s are the backbone of the News Review's board and staff. Their stability, longevity and dedication have enabled the paper to be printed every week without missing an issue. The longest serving News Review staffer is President Emeritus Elaine Skolnik, who began writing the Our Neighbors column in 1954 and continues today as news editor, working from her apartment at Leisure World in Montgomery County.

Editor Mary Lou Williamson joined the staff soon after moving to Greenbelt in 1962. One of her first writing assignments was the special 25th Anniversary booklet. Assistant Editor Barbara Likowski, business staffer Joanne Tucker

See **EARLY WOMEN**, page 7



PHOTO BY MARIORY COLLINS. GREENBELT MUSEUM

Sally Meredith works on an early issue of the Greenbelt Cooperator. Meredith was editor twice, 1947-1948 and in 1950 for six months.

What Goes On

Saturday, March 10

9 a.m. to noon, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between City Office and the Community Center

10 a.m. to noon, Greenbelt Library's Tugwell Room will be open for people to discover the treasures of Greenbelt's History, 75th Anniversary Committee

Monday, March 12

8 p.m., Council Meeting, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbelt.md.gov

Wednesday, March 14

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 114

8 p.m., Council Worksession, Community Center

Friday, March 16

1 p.m., Free Senior Ice Cream Social, Community Center Gym

Letters

THANKS!

Many thanks to Melissa Sites, Amy Kraft, the Friends of the New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA), the New Deal Café and all who attended the fun sing-along at the New Deal Café on Leap Day. Amy played the piano and Melissa played the guitar plus led the singing.

We had a great time singing a wonderful mix of folk songs and old standards. We were able to request some favorites, sing in rounds, try our voices at harmony and even have songs interpreted with sign language. The evening was like a wonderful night around the campfire!

Many of us would love to meet again . . . soon! Stay tuned.

Katrina Boverman

GHI Notes

Thursday, March 8, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting – Board Room

Tuesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m., Rental/Subleasing Task Force – Board Room

7:30 p.m., Nominations and Elections Committee Meeting – GHI Library

Wednesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Architectural Review Committee Meeting – Board Room

Friday, March 16, Office Closed – For emergency maintenance call 301-474-6011

Monday, March 20, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee Meeting – GHI Lobby

Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m., Woodlands Committee Meeting – Board Room

Thursday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting – Board Room

Saturday, March 24, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation – Board Room

1 to 3 p.m., Woodlands Annual Spring Thaw – Hamilton Place

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.



Spring Ahead!

Reset your clocks
forward one hour
on Sunday at 1 a.m.

Council Defers B-WP Vote, Schedules Public Hearing

by Kathleen Gallagher

U.S. Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger (Baltimore County) successfully requested \$1 million in funding under the FY10 Omnibus Appropriations bill to undertake a feasibility study for widening the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (BWP) from four lanes to six from the Baltimore Beltway (I- 695) south to New York Avenue in D.C. The third and final public meeting of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway Widening Feasibility Study was held on February 16 in Greenbelt.

As reported in greater detail in the February 23 issue of this paper, among the findings of the feasibility study were that widening the BWP would not alleviate congestion for the longer term, might have substantial negative community, environmental and safety impacts and, depending on which of four widening options would be selected, would cost anywhere from \$343 million to \$565 million to implement.

At Councilmember Leta Mach’s request this topic was placed on the agenda of the February 27 regular council meeting for comment now that the public meetings were completed. Although council sent a letter enumerating its concerns about the project last year, it chose to wait to convey its recommendation until after the feasibility study was completed. Mach said that although the tenor of the

report suggested that the project would likely not go forward, she thought it was time for council to be on record as opposing it. She made a motion to that effect, which Councilmember Konrad Herling seconded.


Mayor Judith Davis said that although she personally opposed the project, opinion among Greenbelt residents had been divided and that she thought that there should be an opportunity for people to express their opinions prior to council’s taking a stand. Mach replied that she thought the findings of the feasibility study clearly indicated that support for the project was not tenable. Councilmember Edward Putens agreed that the study results were “pretty effective in shooting down the project.”

Public Hearing

After discussion about the best timing for submitting a position on the project, council voted to first hold a public hearing during the March 12 regular council meeting to receive public comment. Putens asked the city manager to look into getting copies of some of the materials presented at the last feasibility study meeting.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts concluded by saying that he had wanted council to take a position last year. He said, “I think we need to state our opposition as soon as possible and fight as hard and as long as we can.”

Grin Belt



“So I asked my Dad if Super Tuesday was a caped superhero or a restaurant special”

Bike Ride to D.C. Sunday, March 11

All are invited to join in a community group bike ride to Hains Point in Washington, D.C., departing from Proteus Bike Shop in North College Park at 1 p.m. and returning to the shop at about 5 p.m.

Greenbelt riders are welcome to meet at the New Deal Café at 12:30 p.m. to head to the start. The route is about 35 miles, with a lunch stop at Eastern Market. The group will ride at a moderate pace; no one will be left behind.

For more information call 301-441-2928.

GCAN to Discuss Climate Solutions

The next meeting of the Greenbelt Climate Action Network (GCAN) will be held on Wednesday, March 14 at 7 p.m. in Room 114 at the Community Center. It will feature a showing of the video “Carbon Nation – A Film about Climate Solutions,” followed by a discussion of the innovative solutions to address energy, transportation and food problems around the world.

The final part of the meeting will include updates on community sustainability projects already in progress in Greenbelt.

Senior Ice Cream Social Next Week

On Friday, March 16 the city recreation department will hold the 15th annual Senior Ice Cream Social. The fun begins at 1 p.m. in the Community Center gym with music provided by Glenn Harris on bass, Michael Suser on keyboard and Renee Tannenbaum singing music from the 1930s through 1970s.

Afterward participants make their own ice cream sundaes, with ice cream in the dining room, starting at 2:15 p.m.

There will be door prizes this year. All seniors are invited to attend.

For more information call the Community Center at 301-397-2208.

St. Hugh Has White Elephant Sale Sun.

St. Hugh’s Catholic Church will hold a white elephant sale, bake sale and coffee social on Sunday, March 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will also be a preview sale Saturday after the 5 p.m. Mass until 7 p.m.

Parking and entrance to the sale are in the rear church parking lot.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Renata York, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Denise George

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$40/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

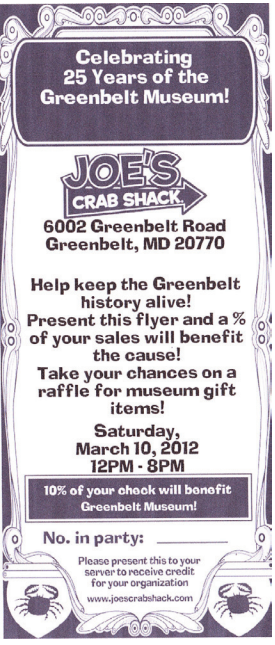
GREENBELT MUSEUM

SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF THE GREENBELT MUSEUM!

Help us raise funds by eating at

Joe's Crab Shack
at Beltway Plaza
Sat., March 10, 2012
12pm to 8pm

Just print out this flyer from greenbeltmuseum.org or pick one up at 10B Crescent. Hand it to your server & the Museum receives 10% of your bill. Thanks!



Celebrating 25 Years of the Greenbelt Museum!

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Greenbelt, MD 20770

Help keep the Greenbelt history alive! Present this flyer and a % of your sales will benefit the cause! Take your chances on a raffle for museum gift items!

Saturday, March 10, 2012
12PM - 8PM

10% of your check will benefit Greenbelt Museum!

No. in party: _____

Please present this to your server to receive credit for your organization
www.joescrabshack.com

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF MAR 9

A Separation (PG-13)

Friday
*5, 7:30, 9:45

Saturday
*2:30, *5, 7:30, 9:45

Sunday
*2:30, *5, 7:30

Monday – Thursday
*5, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.50

Tuesday is Bargain Day. All Seats Only \$5.00.

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Community Events

Call for Green Man Art, Poetry Entries

Entries from visual artists and poets of all ages are sought for posters, ads and t-shirts for a Green Man Festival exhibit at the New Deal Café in May and June. Each year festival organizers choose an image of the Green Man and a poem about human beings' relationship with nature to create the posters, ads and t-shirts for the event. Theme for 2012: Finding Common Ground. All submissions will be displayed at the festival. The person whose art is selected for the t-shirt will receive two shirts of any size available.

Art must be ready to hang (framed and secured by wire), with title, price if offered for sale and contact information. A display case is available for three-dimensional pieces no larger than 10" x 10." Art is to be dropped off on Monday, May 7 from 6 to 8 p.m. and picked up Monday, July 2 from 6 to 8 p.m. An artists' reception will be held on Sunday, June 3 from 7 to 9 p.m. Contributors are asked to inform the committee what they plan to bring by emailing greenbeltgreen_man@live.com.

Submission deadline is Thursday, April 5. Digital files may be submitted to greenbeltgreen_man@live.com; images or poems on paper should be mailed to Green Man Festival, PO Box 1841, Greenbelt, MD 20768-1841.

NARFE Meets At Greenbriar

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Chapter 1122 Northern Prince Georges County will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room, Greenbriar Community Bldg., 7600 Hanover Parkway. Call the office for directions, 301-441-1096, dial 0. Speaker James Henderson, president, Savant Tax & Business Services and a Certified Financial Planner, will talk about "Tax Savings for Retirees." The Executive Board meeting follows chapter meeting and members are invited to attend.

Gypsy Jazz Comes To New Deal Café

The Hot Club of DC plays at the New Deal Café on Friday, March 9 from 8 to 11 p.m. as part of Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary Celebration.

It all started 102 years ago, when guitarist virtuoso Jean-Baptiste "Django" Reinhardt was born in Liberchies, Belgium.

Django Reinhardt founded the Hot Club of France with master violinist Stephane Grappelli and developed an acoustic quintet with only stringed instruments: guitars, violin and upright bass. This musical genre, called "gypsy jazz," became popular in the 1930s, flirting with famous American jazz standards and memorable French songs, often spiced with a hint of Eastern European music. The style and tradition of acoustic jazz have been maintained and appreciated by jazz musicians through the years.

From the most passionate slow song, to the fastest dazzling swing, bossa nova, bolero, tango and waltz, Hot Club of DC celebrates the music of Reinhardt and Grappelli as it was played in the 1930s and as it has evolved today.



ACE Science Club Is Free & Fun for Kids

ACE Science Club for children is meeting on Thursday, March 15 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. The same program will be repeated Wednesday, March 21 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Magnolia Elementary School, 8400 Nightingale Drive, Lanham.

Free to all Greenbelt children ages 8 to 14, the ACE Science Club features hands-on experiments and fun facts about science, technology, engineering, math, nature, life, the universe and – everything. The club has been known to blow things up, demonstrating the explosive potential of chemistry and physics, and also features magic tricks.

Co-op to Hold Two Health Workshops

The Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy will sponsor its free quarterly Healthy Horizons workshops, this month on the subject of "Spring Cleaning for Your Health" twice – on Tuesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. at the Youth Center and at the end of the month in a special Explorations Unlimited program March 30. Certified health coach Kim Rush Lynch and chef/produce manager Ellen Siegel will talk about how to transition into spring with foods to cleanse the liver and the blood.

They will also discuss non-toxic body care products and household cleaners.

There is no charge for the workshop; pre-registration for the March 20 workshop at the Youth Center (to assure sufficient samples are available) is required by Friday, March 16. To register email membership@greenbelt.coop or call 301-474-0522, ext. 205.

Greenbelt Labor Day Committee Meeting

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee will hold its annual membership meeting and elections on March 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Center. All are welcome.

Library Tugwell Room Houses City History

On Saturdays, March 10 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. there will be an orientation to the Greenbelt branch library's special Tugwell Room collection on the history of Greenbelt. Rexford Tugwell, who headed the Resettlement Administration which planned the construction of the greenbelt towns, worked directly with President Franklin Roosevelt. The library archival research center includes audio cassettes of oral histories, photographs, maps and blueprints, memorabilia plus 500 books and periodicals. Brenda Cooley and retired librarian and long-time chief archivist Tom Simon will be available to assist participants explore the room and discuss their findings.

Greenbriar Phase II Annual Meeting

The Greenbriar Phase II annual meeting will be held Tuesday, March 13 at 7 p.m. in the Terrace Room. People who are unable to attend are asked to turn in their completed proxy ballot, sent or faxed to CVS Management Office, dropped off to their building representative or dropped in the "proxy drop" envelope pinned to the bulletin board in their building.

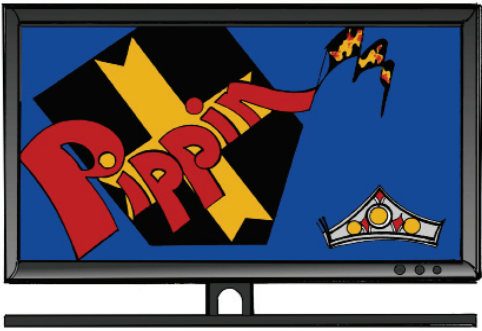
Greenbelt Soccer Alliance Spring Soccer Registration is Open

- Teams from K (age 6) through High School
In particular 3rd – 6th boys and 5th/6th girls needed
- Teams practice in Greenbelt
- All games at same location each Saturday or Sunday
- MYSYSA affiliated.
All players receive accident & liability insurance
- Volunteer coaches needed; training paid for, coaches' children receive discount.

To register go to www.greenbeltsoccer.org or call 240-391-8598



Opening at The Greenbelt Arts Center!



PIPPIN

March 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31 at 8:00 PM
March 18 and 25 at 2:30 PM.

Ticket prices: \$20 General Admission,
\$17 Students/Seniors

For information & reservations, call **301-441-8770**
email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org
or **BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Coming Soon:

April 7, 2012 - Celtic Concert with The Homespun Ceilidh Band
April 27 – May 19 – The Graduate

123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

11 Free Banquet Tables

ATTENTION ALL Organizations!

Are you in need of round banquet tables? Do you have a means of hauling them to your location? If so, you are in LUCK! GCA is donating 11 round 60" banquet tables to an organization in need! MUST take ALL 11 tables. Tables are coated wood and metal, in good and working condition, fairly worn. Call Today!



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R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

WEEK OF MAR 9

FRI. – SAT.

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island,
PG-13

11:55, 2:20, 4:45

Ghost Rider, PG-13

7:35, 9:55

Project X, R

11:35, 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55
Dr. Seuss' Lorax in 2D, PG (!!)

11:30

Dr. Seuss' Lorax in 3D, PG (!!)

1:35, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:40

Silent House, R (!)

11:25, 1:25, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:40
John Carter in 2D, PG-13 (!)

11:45

John Carter in 3D, PG-13 (!)

2:55, 6:45, 9:30

A Thousand Words, PG-13 (!)

11:35, 1:35, 3:45, 5:45, 7:50, 10
Good Deeds, PG-13

11:55, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05

Safe House, R

11:40, 2:30, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05

SUN. – THU.

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island,
PG-13

11:50, 2:30

Ghost Rider, PG-13

5:10, 7:25

Project X, R

11:45, 2:40, 5:25, 7:30

Dr. Seuss' Lorax in 2D, PG (!!)

11:55

Dr. Seuss' Lorax in 3D, PG (!!)

2:20, 5:15, 7:35

Silent House, R (!)

11:45, 2:40, 5:15, 7:20

John Carter in 2D, PG-13 (!)

11:30

John Carter in 3D, PG-13 (!)

3:45, 6:40

A Thousand Words, PG-13 (!)

11:45, 2:40, 5:25, 7:30

Good Deeds, PG-13

11:55, 2:20, 5:05, 7:30

Safe House, R

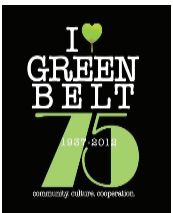
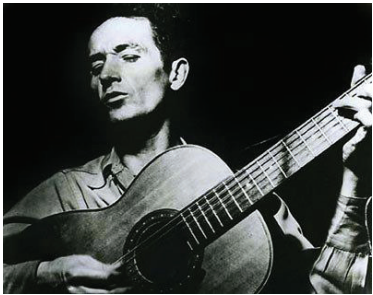
11:45, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25

More Community Events are throughout the paper

WOODY GUTHRIE TRIBUTE

Join Americana Music Night Host Don Walters and special guest Joe Uehlein in a tribute to American folk music hero Woody Guthrie. In commemoration of Woody's 100th birthday and Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary!

Sunday March 11. 5 to 8pm



New Deal Café – 113 Centerway
www.newdealcafe.com

Sponsored by Friends of the New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA)

Obituaries

Todd Whitacre

Todd Whitacre, 46, died on February 21, 2012.

He is survived by his parents, Marjorie M. Whitacre of Greenbelt and H. Stephen Whitacre of Capon Bridge, W.Va.

A funeral service was held at Mowatt United Methodist Church on February 25 with Rev. Fay Lundin officiating. Interment was on February 26 at Baker United Methodist Church Cemetery in Baker, W.Va. Arrangements were by Borgwardt Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made in Mr. Whitacre's name to Mowatt United Methodist Church, 40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, or to the David Craig Memorial Scholarship Fund, Ltd., P.O. Box 761, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

In Memoriam

Todd Whitacre was only 46 years old, son of Marjorie M. Whitacre of Greenbelt and H. Stephen Whitacre of Capon Bridge, W.Va. He had aunts, uncles, cousins and a host of friends. He was laid to rest in the Baker United Methodist Church Cemetery, Baker, W.Va. on February 26.

He was a great friend. He loved to operate big machinery and did so until he was laid off and then, not able to find employment, did odd jobs.

Todd did yard work for me and always wanted to please you in what he did. He went out of his way to take a burden off you in whatever he did. He always wanted to know if he did the work to suit me and call any time if I needed something. He is missed.

He got the job of taking care of the Mowatt Methodist Church yard, again always asking if everything was ok and aiming to please.

He didn't always like to hear negative comments from people. He would discuss the situation with me and I would tell him I would speak with the people and all would be ok.

When the Craigs' old riding mower was on its last leg at the church, we began to look for a new one. One day Todd and his mother saw one on sale in the paper. Todd and I went to look at it and bought it. It was put on the back of Todd's truck and he brought it to the church. It was then we found we had no key and I went back to the store and got one, only to find out when I got back to the church we had a dead battery. We both were getting a little agitated at that point, took the mower back to the store and they gave Todd a new one which ran perfectly.

He was so happy mowing. I would drive into the church yard and he would wave or else drive to my car and say, "How am I doing?" "Wonderful," I would say. "Keep up the good work."

He will be missed. I have lost a truly good friend.

— Maxine V. Smith



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.

Janet B. Smith

Janet Beverly Smith, 65, died Monday, March 5, 2012, at the Queen Anne's Hospice Center in Centreville, Md.

Born on July 7, 1946, in Shamokin, Pa., she was the daughter of the late Gilbert Daniel and Grace Kathryn Rogers Fisher.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Russel James, Sr.; and a sister Joeann Kathryn Fisher.

Mrs. Smith is survived by her two children, Larry Gene Smith, Jr., of Greenbelt and Teresa Ann Purdy and her husband, Sean, of Queenstown; five grandchildren: Andrew Tyler, Carrie Ann, Nicholas Paul, Ivy Lynn and Amber Lee Smith; and a niece, Jamie Lynn Brown.

A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 9 at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home in Chester, Md.

Contributions may be made in Mrs. Smith's name to Hospice of Queens Anne's, Inc., 255 Comet Drive, Centreville, MD 21617.

Online condolences may be made at www.fhnfuneralhome.com.


Credit Union Joins ATM Network

The Greenbelt-based Educational Systems Federal Credit Union at 7500 Hanover Drive has joined the Credit Union 24 national network, the nation's largest credit union-owned fee-free ATM and point-of sale-terminal network.

The expansion provides many thousands of sites at major retailers nationwide for ESFCU members.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

 Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

Sunday, March 11, 10 a.m.

"Mother Jones, Local Heroine," Rev. Diane Teichert, Worship Associate Carol Carter Walker, DRE Erica Shadowsong and the Choir (Labor and Community Organizer who lived in Adelphi)

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. James Lawton - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
berwynpresbyterian.net

Worship : Sundays at 11:00 am -- Child Care Available
Sunday School : Sundays at 9:30 am
Office Hours : M-F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"



Congregation Mishkan Torah

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

Golden Age Club

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The last meeting of the Golden Age Club was very well attended by members and guests. We enjoyed a very informative presentation by Bob Luddy on the Civil War in our immediate area. Maybe he'll come speak again

The speaker on March 14 will be Luisa Robles. Her topic will be "We Recycle – then what?" This should be of interest to all generations. I have been told that seniors do an excellent job recycling!

We were glad to hear club president Cathie Brannan is recovering from surgery on her hand and we are sending her happy thoughts.

Just a reminder – turn clocks ahead one hour March 11 for Daylight Savings Time.

Don't forget to sign up for the anniversary lunch to be held April 19 at the Holiday Inn on Route 1 near IKEA.

We all need to enjoy life so let's live a lot, laugh a lot and love a lot.

Sunday Woody Guthrie Tribute at New Deal

On Sunday, March 11 from 5 to 11 p.m. there will be a free Woody Guthrie tribute evening for folk music lovers at the New Deal Café. Local folk artist Don Walters will host American Music Night, joined by fellow folk artist Joe Uehlein.

Greenbelt was still in its infancy when Woody Guthrie was traveling around the country capturing through song the life experiences of people coping with the Great Depression. The tribute is part of Greenbelt's 75th anniversary celebration.



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

Worship Service 10am

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST




Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor


"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd



O Son of Man!

If thou lovest Me, turn away from thyself; and if thou seekest My pleasure, regard not thine own; that thou mayest die in Me and I may eternally live in thee. (Baha'u'llah)

Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us



Greenbelt Baptist Church

101 Greenhill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!

Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship Service
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"

St. George's Episcopal Church


Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services

- Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org





HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111
www.myholycross.org email myholycross@verizon.net

Worship 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
Quiet Communion Service
Come as you are!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church is a traditional Bible-believing, Christ-centered congregation! Join Us!
Join us on Facebook at Holy Cross Lutheran Greenbelt



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 12, 2012 - Municipal Building at 8:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- 75th Anniversary Symposium
- Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Update

Public Hearing

- Baltimore Washington Parkway Feasibility Study

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Minutes of Council Meetings

- * - Work Session, February 1, 2012
- * - Work Session,
- * - Regular Meeting,

Administrative Reports

Council Reports

Committee Reports

- Greenbelt Middle School Task Force, Report #2012-1 (Update to Interim Report)

LEGISLATION

- An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 11 "Motor Vehicles and Traffic" Article VI "Automated Enforcement Program" of the Greenbelt City Code -1st Reading
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of Energy Efficient Parking Lot and Pathway Lighting from Lighting Maintenance, Inc. of Linthicum, Maryland at a Cost Not to Exceed \$103,561 -1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules, 2nd Reading, Adoption
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Implementation of an Automated Speed Enforcement System with Brekford Corporation of Hanover, Maryland -1st Reading

OTHER BUSINESS

- Award of Purchase – Police Vehicles
- Greenbelt Metro Area Sector Plan (Tentative)
- State Legislation
- Other Reports
- *- Reappointment to Advisory Group

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 12-16

Monday, March 12th at 8:00 p.m. **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** at Greenbelt Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov

Wednesday, March 14th at 7:30 p.m., **GREENBELT ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, at the Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, Room 114. On the Agenda: Springhill Lake Elementary School Safe Routes to School conceptual plans with Jared Paper-Evers from State Highway Administration and Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan – Next Steps.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

GREENBELT RECREATION DEPARTMENT PRESENTS 43 TALENTED TEENS IN THE GREENBELT YOUTH MUSICAL 2012:

HOMeward BOUND

THE MUSICAL TALE OF ODYSSEUS AND PENELOPE
Written and Directed by Christopher Cherry
Based on The Odyssey, by Homer

Saturday, March 10 at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road
Tickets: \$5 - CALL 301-397-2208 FOR TICKETS



CELEBRATE WITH THE GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER

Celebrating...
Big Daddy's Birthday Bash!
And the Animal Shelter Recently Passing Over 1,000 Facebook Friends!
SATURDAY, MARCH 10th
8:00 p.m.- 12:00 a.m.
Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department
125 Crescent Road

\$20 Pre-Sale Tickets: Available at the Greenbelt Animal Shelter, M-F from 4-6pm and Saturdays from 9-11am
\$25.00 at the Door.

Pizza, Casino Table, 50/50 Raffle, Beer, Sodas, DJ, Dancing, Birthday Cake and of course the guest of honor, BIG DADDY!

MUST BE 18 OR OVER TO ATTEND...21 FOR BEER.
SPONSORED BY THE GREENBELT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.
Proceeds will go to the Ronin Veterinary Fund to help pay for the animals' medical expenses. Info: 240-508-7533

SENIOR ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Friday, March 16 at 1:00 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center Gym
15 Crescent Road

Make your own Ice Cream Sundaes! Entertainment provided by Glenn Harris, Michael Suser & Renee Tannenbaum.
This is a free program.
For more information call 301-397-2208
Sponsored by the City of Greenbelt Therapeutic Recreation Program.



Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary GALA DINNER DANCE

Tickets go on Sale
March 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

To Celebrate Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary a GALA Dinner Dance will be held at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. and will feature Peaches O'Dell & Her Orchestra.

Tickets are \$65.00 each and may be purchased in person or with a credit card over the phone at the Greenbelt Community Center business office 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21st by calling 240-542-2058.

After March 21st tickets may be purchased at the Greenbelt Community Center by walk in or over the phone from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. For information or to purchase by phone please call 240-542-2058.

Make sure you get your tickets early. This will be the hottest ticket in town and once the event is sold out, tickets will not be available.

How This City Was Built

Greenbelt's 75th Anniversary Committee invites you to discover the treasures of Greenbelt's history stored in its public library (11 Crescent Road) in the Tugwell Room. Rexford Tugwell headed the Resettlement Administration which planned the construction of the "Greenbelt Towns". Tugwell worked directly with President Franklin Roosevelt.

Few cities in Maryland have archival research centers which include: audio cassettes of oral histories, photographs, maps and blueprints, memorabilia, plus some 500 books and periodicals. The Tugwell Room, located on the Library's main floor, will be open on Saturday, March 10 and March 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tom Simon, retired librarian and long-time chief archivist and Brenda Cooley will be available to assist participants explore the room and discuss their findings.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Arts Advisory Board,
- Employee Relations Board,
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board,
- Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability,
- Public Safety Advisory Committee and
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

For information call 301-474-8000.

DONATION DROP-OFF

American Rescue Workers

Saturday, March 10, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

Parking lot between City Office and the Community Center

Info: City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8308.

Hey kids!

Your artistic talents are needed! We are inviting all children, ages 4-12, to participate in our **SUMMER POSTCARD CONTEST!** We need you to draw a picture with the theme, **"Summertime in Greenbelt!"**. Be Creative and Colorful!

Where is your favorite place to play in Greenbelt?
What activities do you do?

Submitted drawings will be posted to the City of Greenbelt Facebook Page*. The Community will be invited to vote on their favorite drawing! The winning drawing will be featured on the Greenbelt Recreation Summer Postcard that is mailed to all Greenbelt Residents! Good Luck!!!!

*Drawings posted on the Facebook Page will not feature the child's name.

Drawings must be submitted by April 2, 2012 to the Greenbelt Youth Center (99 Centerway). Voting on Facebook will take place April 3-April 10.



"Like" the City of Greenbelt Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt
Vote for your favorite postcard by "liking" it during the week of April 3-10. Entry forms for the contest can be downloaded from www.greenbeltmd.gov.

For City Information and events visit www.greenbeltmd.gov. Also, like us at www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt

MOVIE continued from page 1

Reverend Terry Braund, minister at Greenbelt Community Church, and by Police Chief George Panagoulis. In part, Greenbelters gave their support because some of the so-called subversive organizations, in which the men were accused of membership, such as the co-ops, were liberal, but certainly not subversive, organizations. (The movie specifically mentions an association with the local newspaper.)

In the movie, Borgnine plays the role of Chasanow as Bernie Goldsmith. The three brave men of the movie are Goldsmith, his attorney, played by Ray Milland, and an assistant secretary of the Navy, played by Dean Jaegar-Goldsmith, for standing up and appealing the suspension and firing. The attorney was seen as brave for taking on the case at a nominal fee, the assistant secretary for reopening the case.

Janet Parker, who attended the discussion but did not watch the movie, told the group she had once seen the movie but did not like it, as was the case, she said, with many other Greenbelters. She assailed it for not mentioning that three men had lost their jobs, all of whom were Jews.

The Times

To better understand why these events happened, one has to understand the times. America was just beginning to recover from fighting a horrendous war. Our great war-time ally and friend, Joseph Stalin, had turned out to be a villain and a murderer. The Soviet Union had gobbled up Eastern Europe and made once-proud countries communistic puppets of the Soviet Union. Both the United States and Great Britain had found that Soviet agents had infiltrated high levels of government.

A strong feeling of anti-semitism pervaded much of the country at that time, with Jews banned from buying real estate in many areas. This feeling was strong enough to cause government leaders to discredit or ignore accounts of the Holocaust taking place in Nazi Germany and occupied lands and to deny entry to Jewish refugees. In the 1950s antisemitism was still a force, existing in Washington and even to a lesser extent in Greenbelt.

America had been suffering from economic depression up to World War II. This caused many to look for and support new ways to deal with economics and politics, including radical points of view from the right and particularly from the left, including socialism and Marxism.

To some at that time, the Soviet Union and Marxism appeared to be solutions for the hard times. "From each according to his abilities; to each according to his needs" was a motto offering promise to many, particularly to young idealists. Many groups then endorsed ideals sympathetic to the Soviet Union without being anti-American or communists.

Then along comes Greenbelt in the late 1930s, a utopian model community built by a liberal federal government program. Residents were encouraged to be actively involved in their community and the cooperative movement was encour-

aged, resulting in cooperative businesses, a cooperative newspaper, a cooperative nursery school, a cooperative health facility and eventually a cooperative housing corporation.

Then, after the war when the country came to realize the villainy of Soviet communism, along came Joe McCarthy, who for a time became one of the most powerful figures in the country by claiming to find communists infiltrating every nook and cranny of the federal government.

The country, as it often does, overreacted. Laws were passed to have everyone in government sign loyalty oaths. Many lost jobs because of past ties to organizations which then seemed harmless but which now were proclaimed "subversive." Government bureaucrats everywhere searched out their organizations to root out every disloyal employee prepared to overthrow democracy. The movie industry, torn asunder by government investigation as well, found communists and "communist sympathizers" within its highest echelons, resulting in numerous prominent figures being banned from the industry.

In 1953, when the Greenbelt men were fired, the hysteria was beginning to subside. The country was coming to realize that McCarthy was much wind and little substance. By 1956, when the movie was made, McCarthy had been discredited by the televised Army-McCarthy hearings.

Who Was Brave?

So who was brave? Chasanow, Parker and maybe Salzman and their families are certainly to be commended for enduring and successfully surviving what must have been a terrible ordeal. Chasanow's attorney, Joseph Fannelli. Perhaps. Defending security risks would have been a risky undertaking in that time.

The assistant secretary of the Navy, James H. Smith, Jr. Unlikely, despite what the movie implies. The Navy reversed course most likely from the bad publicity generated by the Lewis articles and public and political reaction to them.

The "brave" man of the movie who ordered a second investigation of Goldsmith to take place (after Lewis began writing articles) is the same man who chose to overrule a hearing panel and ordered Chasanow fired.

What about Anthony Lewis? At a time when careers could be jeopardized by support of anything that might be considered a risk to the country's security, did his reporting of the Chasanow affair constitute a brave act?

How about the citizens of Greenbelt who rallied to the support of Chasanow, some, as depicted in the movie and as told to me in person, personally disliked the man. Many were government workers. Were they brave to stand up for Chasanow and Parker?

Lastly, was the movie itself an act of bravery on the part of its producers, director and actors? This was one of the first, if not the first, Hollywood efforts to take on the effects of the anti-communism hysteria engendered by McCarthy and others. The movie industry had itself been

torn apart by the congressional investigation. Was this for them a brave undertaking – even though done in an exceedingly mild way? The movie goes out of its way to make the Navy a hero, not a villain.

In spite of having two Academy Award winning stars in its cast, "Three Brave Men" did not become a well-regarded movie. It is now difficult even to find a copy. But for Greenbelt, it is of monumental importance in documenting one of the most traumatic episodes in the life of the community.

Documentation

It is unfortunate that there has not been greater research and documentation of the Chasanow-Parker-Salzman affair and its impact on the community. Perhaps it is still not too late. Some people, such as Janet Parker, the Chasanow children and residents of Greenbelt at the time, still living here with first-hand knowledge of what happened, could recount their stories. The Lewis articles could be found and compiled, along with other press accounts of the time. Who knows, perhaps Navy records of the episode are archived somewhere and could be made public.

During discussion after the movie showing, Jordan Choper postulated that the Chasanow-Parker-Salzman affair helped build the Jewish Community Center of Prince George's County, now Mishkan Torah Synagogue. He said the Navy

firings caused the members of the Jewish community to come together and realize, more than ever, the need for a synagogue.

They took it upon themselves to build the structure, although they were mostly amateurs. He told how contractors, passing by, stopped to help, getting building corners to be properly squared. In fact, many members of the community joined to help construct the edifice.

Choper also told of the problem of electric sockets in part of the building not working and the reason for that fact. The congregation had built the walls and installed the roof before pouring the concrete floor. It had then become necessary to tear down part of a wall to pour the floor. Hauling concrete over installed electric lines had damaged the lines so that they failed to work.

Brenda Cooley noted how persons of the Catholic faith helped with the strong support of Father Dowgiallo. Bunny Fitzgerald noted how there was an altar at Greenbelt Community Church donated by the Mishkan Torah community in appreciation for the construction help provided by members of that church. Choper noted that the Greenbelt City Council had designated a Jewish Community Center Day and urged citizens to help out.

You don't believe that amateurs built the building? Take a look at the brickwork alignment in the front wall.

GATE Has Nonprofit Day for Taping PSAs

The Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) studio will hold a nonprofit day Saturday, March 17 from 10 a.m. to noon to allow Greenbelt-based nonprofit organizations to present a 30-second public service announcement.

On a first-come, first-served basis the PSAs will be taped and edited for showing between programs on the GATE Channels, Comcast 77 and Verizon Fios 19.

Organizational presenters should bring a draft script including name, their organizational name, a brief description of the mission or event to be publicized and contact information. Any additional supporting pictures should be brought in as jpegs on a CD. GATE recommends against wearing all black, all white or small patterns as those do not videotape well.

A professional grade Autoscript teleprompter is available so there is no need to memorize a script, though good familiarity with the contents is highly recommended. GATE is located on the second floor of the Greenbelt Community Center, across from the Multipurpose Room.

GATE is prohibited by law from promoting commercial organizations or commercial events including raffles, sales and lotteries. The next nonprofit PSA day is scheduled for April 21.

For further information call the GATE studio at 301-507-6581 or MaliaMurray@hotmail.com.



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Greenbelt Post 136
presents

LARRY JIMMY RICK

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EVERYBODY'S DANCING

Saturday – March 17, 2012

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Show starts at 8:00 p.m.

LET'S TWIST

CHUBBY CHECKER

TIM MCGRAW

JACKSON

TRACE ADKINS

PUSSY CAT DOLLS

ELTON JOHN

EARLY WOMEN continued from page 1

and this writer have logged more than 40 years each.

Ruth Taylor

Theodora “Teddy” Murray ran for the first town council in 1937 and lost. But the next year Ruth Taylor became Greenbelt’s first woman elected to the town council and the first elected woman official in Prince George’s County. She served from 1938 to 1941. In 1939 Taylor suggested an ordinance banning the wearing of shorts and bathing suits in the (Roosevelt) Center Mall. It wasn’t until July 1954 that Fran Herling (mother of Councilmember Konrad Herling) challenged the ordinance and was arrested. Her famous blue shorts are in the Greenbelt Museum collection.

Mary Jane Kinzer

One of the most formidable women in Greenbelt’s early history was Mary Jane Kinzer. In March 1940 Kinzer was appointed supervisor of Family and Community Services under the federal Farm Security Administration. According to one resident, “She had to pass on the eligibility for hordes of applicants.”

She also was instrumental in forming the first library, two public kindergartens and an adult education program. She organized the Greenbelt Citizens Association, the community band, the childcare center, the choral group. She encouraged the establishment of the Cooperative Nursery School and hired its first teacher.

In 1953 she resigned from government employment to become supervisor of Sales and

Services for the new housing cooperative, now called Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI). For nearly three decades, Kinzer used her powerful position to determine whether an applicant wishing to purchase one of the homes was qualified or not. She continued in this job until her retirement in 1969.

Lenore Thomas

In 1937 Lenore Thomas was hired by the Works Progress Administration to carve the Mother and Child limestone statue for Greenbelt’s town center. Thomas worked alone in her Accokeek studio. The government paid her \$7 per day to rent the air compressor she used and \$5.50 per day for her work.

She also sculpted the friezes on the side of the Community Center that depict the Preamble to the Constitution. Thomas often expressed her gratitude for the job, which allowed her to practice her craft during those difficult post-Depression days. A future exhibit of her life and work is planned by the Greenbelt Museum.

Woman’s Club

Over the years many women joined The Woman’s Club of Greenbelt, organized in 1939 with 16 charter members. By 1950 it had grown to 54 members. The Woman’s Club provided financial support to the teen club’s “Drop Inn” center and helped raise funds for the Youth Center.

Members were active in the Red Cross, the USO and area hospitals. The club sold war bonds in the theater lobby and

members served as airplane spotters. During World War II, the club had its name emblazoned on the side of a fighter plane in recognition of their being one of the most active chapters in the country. It disbanded in 1990 as its membership had aged and dwindled.

Elizabeth Harrington

In 1949 Elizabeth Harrington received the highest number of votes for town council and was elected by her colleagues as mayor of Greenbelt. She had already served on the town council for two years. She was the first woman elected mayor in the State of Maryland. In one interview, she announced, “I am a housewife first, last and always.”

Harrington attributed her success to not being a flag-waving feminist, although she had a master’s degree in religious education from Columbia University. She claimed that she “stumbled into politics But I came to realize that if you believed in community betterment, then there is no better place to work than at the political level.”

She felt that being in the community all day made her more aware of what needed to be done. “Whatever was going on, I knew about it,” she proclaimed.

In later years she saw herself as a role model, asserting that “if a woman is capable in the role of leadership, then she should get involved in politics. I deplore the fact that there are not more women in local politics,” she added.

She also felt her activism

made her a more interesting person to her family. “It’s good to have a great outside interest that commands the totality of your being, the totality of your ability, so that you are not so steeped in dusting the house and keeping up with what the children are doing,” she concluded.

It took 20 years for another Elizabeth, this time Elizabeth “Betty” Maffay, to become the third woman elected to city council. And it wasn’t until 1993 that Antoinette “Toni” Bram became Greenbelt’s second woman mayor after a decade of serving on council.

Rhea Cohen

In 1968 Rhea Cohen, a crusading young mother not previously active in Greenbelt’s politics, led the Save Our Community Committee (SOCC). She battled the Board of Education’s plan to build a high school complex on property known as Parcel 2, near the unimproved Northway extended road.

Cohen’s SOCC joined forces with Citizens for a Planned Greenbelt to oppose the school site and the possible widening of Ridge Road to accommodate construction vehicles and school buses. The News Review, under the leadership of Al and Elaine Skolnik, published a barrage of articles on the subject.

Together, these organizations sparked the flame that ignited council and GHI to sue the school board. A triumphant citizenry heralded the school board’s decision in 1971 to purchase land on Greenbelt Road for what is now Eleanor Roosevelt High

School. In 1971, newly elected councilwoman Cohen led another battle, this time against construction of a separate temporary sewage treatment plant for the Greenbriar Condominium project slated for construction on Greenbelt Road. Cohen and others objected to the sewage treatment plant being built during the county’s building moratorium because of the inadequate sewer system.

Elaine Skolnik honed her interviewing skills through detailed investigative reporting on this issue. Despite their efforts, county officials approved the plant but with conditions that provided what citizens felt were necessary safeguards. In 1974 the first Greenbriar residents moved in. The plant was hooked up to the public system in 1976 and Cohen went on to a career with the Corps of Engineers.

Through seven decades, these memorable women – and many others – paved the way for Greenbelt’s current leaders. Most had households to maintain and children to raise. Some had outside employment. But they worked hard for community betterment, as Elizabeth Harrington called it. They believed they had the ability and the responsibility to create a better Greenbelt.

Today, three women serve on the city council, more than at any other time. Judith Davis was first elected in 1993 and has served as mayor for over seven two-year terms. Leta Mach was first elected in 2003 and Silke Pope in 2009.

These are just a few of the great buys you will find at Co-op this week!

Prices Effective: MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	12	13	14	15	16	17
18						

121 CENTERWAY-ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Visit us online at www.greenbelt.coop

SUPERMARKET

Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-0522

PHARMACY

Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. until 7 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. 301-474-4400
Closed Sunday

Greenbelt

COOP

Supermarket Pharmacy

Fresh Quality Meat		Farm Fresh Produce		Dairy	Frozen	Seafood
Shurfine Homestyle Roasting Chicken	88¢ lb.	Fresh Sweet Seedless Grapes Red/White	99¢ lb.	Minute Maid Premium Orange Juice 64 oz.	Green Giant Assorted Boxed Vegetables 7-10 oz.	Fresh Catch Salmon Portions 5 oz.
Fresh Value Pack Porterhouse & T-Bone Steaks	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Crisp Iceberg Lettuce head	97¢	Shurfine Grade A White Large Eggs dozen	Swanson Hungry Man Dinners Asst. 13-17 oz.	Sea Best Cod Fillets 1 lb.
Fresh Value Pack Boneless Pork Center Cut Chops or Roasts	\$2 ⁴⁹ lb.	Fresh Crunchy Cut & Peeled Baby Carrots 1 lb.	97¢	Keller's Pure Butter Quarters 16 oz.	Mrs. Paul's Breaded Seafood Asst. 7-24 oz.	Sea Choice Salmon Burgers 12.8 oz.
Grocery Bargains				<div>Happy</div> <div>St. Patrick's Day</div>	Grocery Bargains	
Progresso Classic Soups Select Varieties 18-19 oz.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Maxwell House Ground Coffee Select Varieties 10.5-11.5 oz.	\$2 ⁹⁹		Da Vinci Pasta Spaghetti/Macaroni 16 oz.	Tuttorosso Pasta Sauce Assorted 24 oz.
Purex Liquid Laundry Detergent 50 oz.	\$2 ⁵⁰	Quaker Instant Oatmeal Assorted 10-16 oz.	\$2 ⁵⁰		Kellogg's Pop Tarts Assorted 8 pack	Shurfine Flour All-Purpose/Ubleached 5 lb.
Deli		Bakery		Natural & Gourmet	Health & Beauty	Beer & Wine
Deli Gourmet Cooked Ham	\$3 ⁹⁹ lb.	Authentic Irish Soda Bread loaf	\$2 ⁴⁹	Thai Kitchen Assorted Asian Noodle Bowls 2-3 oz.	Angle Dents Tooth Brushes 3 pack	Icehouse Beer 6 pk. – 12 oz. cans
Del Gourmet Swiss Cheese	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Store Baked Assorted Rye Bread loaf	\$1 ⁹⁹	Kernel Seasons Assorted Seasoned Popcorn 4-6 oz.	Right Guard Asst. Sport Deodarant 2-3 oz.	Yellow Tail Wines Assorted 750 ML

Check out our **best buy \$avings** on thousands of items throughout the store. Look for the green **best buy** shelf tags in all departments. We reserve the right to limit quantities. No sales to dealers please. Co-op is not responsible for typographical errors. Other great weekly specials are featured in our 6-page full color ad flier inserted in your News Review.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltnmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf.
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery
February 23, 11:09 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Court. A man was assaulted and had his money taken by a robber who was described as a black male, 25 to 30 years old, 180 to 215 pounds, with black hair, wearing a camouflage jacket and black pants.

February 29, 12:37 a.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. Two men approached a person, displayed a handgun and demanded the person's property. The robbers are described as black males, wearing masks and hooded sweatshirts, who fled in a maroon Honda Accord.

February 29, 11:07 p.m., 6600 block Lake Park Drive. A 41-year-old Bladensburg man was arrested and charged with armed robbery, robbery, 1st degree assault, 2nd degree assault and reckless endangerment. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Multiple Offenses
February 23, 5:47 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway. A 20-year-old Greenbelt woman was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana, assault on a police officer and disorderly conduct. She was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Drug Arrest
February 24, 2:43 a.m., 9000 block Edmonston Road. A 24-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with possession of cocaine and multiple alcohol-related traffic offenses after a traffic stop. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 24, 11:24 a.m., 5700 block Cherrywood Lane. A 27-year-old D.C. man was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

Disorderly Conduct
February 25, 3:51 a.m., 8100 block Lakecrest Drive. A 21-year-old Greenbelt man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. He was released on citation pending trial.

Burglary
February 23, 6:53 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road. Electronics were taken.

February 25, 8:01 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court. Electronics were taken.

February 26, 10:30 a.m., 6200 block Springhill Court. An attempted burglary occurred.

February 27, 12:50 p.m., 9200 block Springhill Lane. Electronics were taken.

February 28, 6:50 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics and jewelry were taken.

February 28, 6:59 p.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics and currency were taken.

Vandalism
February 26, 1:15 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A window was broken.

February 28, 6:29 p.m., Ora Glen Court at Ora Glen Drive. Graffiti was found on playground equipment.

Vehicle Crime
One vehicle was reported stolen, a gold 2006 Chevrolet Malibu with MD tags taken from the 9200 block Springhill Lane.

Two Attempted Burglaries Occur at Roosevelt Center

by Sue Krofchick

Two attempted burglaries within a week have occurred at businesses in Roosevelt Center. Both involve heavy objects being thrown into glass to try to gain access to the establishments.

"Evidence was recovered and is being processed by the Maryland State Police," said Cpl. Kelly Lawson, public information officer for the Greenbelt Police Dept.

In the first incident, an alarm coming from the Co-op Supermarket sounded in the early morning hours of Tuesday, February 21. One of the large windows forming the glass wall across from the row of cash registers was shattered but intact, except for a hole in the tempered safety glass. A brick found inside the store was reported to be the instrument causing destruction of the window. Burglars did not gain access inside.

"The majority of the cost for replacement (estimated to be \$1,500) will be covered by insurance except for the deductible," which, according to store manager Bob Davis, is not known at this time.

Police again received an alarm in the early morning hours, this time on February 28, also a Tuesday, coming from the Greenbelt Sunoco located on Crescent Road near the Co-op.

Burglars using a landscaping rock approximately 8x8x6 inches initially threw it against the window nearest the cash register. The window shattered but remained intact. The same rock was then used to try to break the glass entrance door. This too shattered

but remained intact. An attempt was made to remove a shard of glass in order to reach inside and turn the lock to the open position. This was unsuccessful.

An outside security camera from Roosevelt Center making sweeps of the view at intervals showed an automobile at the Sunoco at 12:25 a.m. The car was gone by 12:27 a.m. Glare from the service station windows prevented the capture of usable information.

"This is the first time in 27 years there has been an attempt to break in," said Bill Novick, owner-operator of the community service station. Insurance will cover the \$1,800 cost to replace the door and window but Novick is responsible for covering the \$500 deductible.

Novick said the glass in the windows and door are 4-ply safety glass, the equivalent of two windshields next to each other. The landscaping rock could not penetrate the glass and was found on the ground just outside the door.

Evidence found at the scene is being processed by the Maryland State Police. The Greenbelt Police Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of suspect(s) in these two cases. Anonymous tips may be reported to either 1-866-411-TIPS or 240-542-2145.

At New Deal Café

Saturday, March 10 begins with Bruce Kritt on classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m. Ben Miller, a student of regular pianist John Guernsey, will follow from 6 to 8 p.m. with jazz and blues. J.C. plays acoustic covers, soft rock and R&B from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Sunday, March 11 Don Walters leads a Woody Guthrie Tribute from 5 to 8 p.m., also part of the 75th Anniversary celebration.

Next Week

Tuesday, March 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. Greg Martins plays pop-rock originals along with classic cover tunes. There will be a five minute slide show of Hubble Space Telescope images set to the music of his latest CD. Wynne Paris mixes yoga and world beat music with rock, jazz and folk on Wednesday, March 14 from 7 to 9. On Thursday, March 15 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays mid-day melodies noon to 2 p.m. The weekly open microphone session will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. with Tom Gleason. Pianist John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 16 then The Badger Band plays Grateful Dead, Dylan and originals from 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday, March 17 begins with Bruce Kritt playing classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by John Guernsey playing jazz and blues piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Continuing Café tradition, the Greentop Ramblers play a lively St. Patrick's Day show from 8 to 11 p.m. Sunday, March 18 the Not 2 Cool Jazz Trio plays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with the monthly kid's open microphone session from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Darkuba Dawg Hafila provides an afternoon of live Middle Eastern music and dance from 5 to 7 p.m. with musicians playing exotic instruments including the oud, darbuka and riq.

75th Anniversary

of the

Greenbelt NewsReview

Celebration Dinner

at the Greenbelt Marriott

November 18, 2012

SAVE the DATE


Tickets to go on sale soon!

Please check future issues of the Greenbelt News Review for more information.

Green Ridge House Opens Wait List

Green Ridge House, the City of Greenbelt's HUD Section 8-202 apartment building, will open its waiting list from **March 5-9 and 12-16, 2012, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** Green Ridge House is an independent living apartment building located at 22 Ridge Road. All applicants must apply in person and be 62 years of age or older or be a disabled adult. All applicants must have with them a valid Maryland State ID or Drivers License and their Social Security card. All applicants will have a credit and criminal background check performed to determine eligibility. Applicants should be prepared to move within 30 days once they receive a call that a unit is available. Rent is based upon 30 percent of one's income within a maximum gross income of \$37,650 for individuals and \$43,000 for couples.

All apartments are one bedroom units. *Only applicants who would consider moving within the next 6 months to one year should apply.*



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

The American Legion
Greenbelt Post 136
St. Patrick's Day
Saturday March 17th
Lunch and Dinner
specials
(11 a.m. to 8 p.m.)
Corned Beef & Cabbage,
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DJ in the Hall from
noon to 4:00 p.m.
Band Ho-Kiss Po-Kiss
8:00 p.m. in hall
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DRINK SPECIALS
Bailey's Irish Cream,
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Guinness beer, Nutty
Irishman and much more

BUDGET continued from page 1

in the Police Department.

Councilmember Leta Mach said one thing she would not support would be further deferrals of work on the theater building. McLaughlin assured her that he expected the theater to remain in the budget as an FY13 project.

When Councilmember Ed Putens asked if any more tax abatements were likely to surface this fiscal year, McLaughlin said that historically there was no pattern to them but that since such other corporate properties as the Maryland Trade Center, Beltway Plaza, and Greenbelt Homes, Inc. had received abatements in the past, the likelihood of changes with significant impact was reduced.

Noting that the city is forced to budget in part on the basis of revenue projections from the state, Putens asked how the city could deal with that level of uncertainty. McLaughlin replied that the way the city deals with it is to build in buffers to meliorate the effect of having to rely on estimates.

When Mayor Judith Davis opened the floor to questions from the audience, Bill Orleans asked if the city had ever considered challenging tax abatements. McLaughlin said the staff had talked about it but that the only local jurisdiction in the state that does so is Montgomery County. He said the additional staff and consultants that would be needed to undertake a challenge are expensive and that the assumption is that if only a county as well-heeled as Montgomery does it, the money that would be put in would likely not be well invested.

In sum, McLaughlin said that since the FY12 budget was adopted with a surplus of more than \$300,000, and considering both cost and revenue reductions, expenditures for this year might exceed revenues by \$400,000. Putting that in perspective, however, he said that in the prior year revenues exceeded expenditures by nearly \$882,000, resulting in a fund balance increase for the two-year period of about \$480,000.

Looking ahead to the FY13 budget, McLaughlin said it is still too early to say but that at this point he thinks that while it will not be easy, it will not be too painful. He said a concern is that if he cannot increase some of the necessary cushions and there is a revenue shortfall, either additional sources of income will have to be found or programs will have to be cut.

The city manager also re-

viewed a number of “good news” items in programs: progress on capital projects, a noticeable decline in crime from prior years, progress on sustainability measures in excess of the state’s goals. As a new measurement for consideration, he announced that the city now has 1,500 friends on Facebook, which he cited as an index to the increasing exposure of the city’s website.

Following the formal presentation of the budget on March 26, there are 10 budget worksessions scheduled, beginning on Wednesday, March 28 and ending with the final budget review on Monday, May 21. Public hearings on the budget will be held as part of regular council meetings on Monday, April 23 and Tuesday, May 29. The budget is scheduled for adoption at a regular council meeting to be held on Monday, June 4. The complete list of budget worksessions is available on the city’s website at greenbeltmd.gov.

Foundation Grant Applications Open

The Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) is currently accepting grant applications for the spring 2012 funding cycle. GCF awards grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 twice a year to local organizations for projects in the arts, education, environmental preservation and for community enhancement that “celebrate, respect and build upon the legacy and best ideals of Greenbelt.”

Complete applications must be mailed to the Greenbelt Community Foundation, P.O. Box 234, Greenbelt, MD 20768, postmarked by no later than April 14.

More details can be found at www.greenbeltfoundation.net.

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March 13 at 7:30pm
Community Center

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FOR SALE – 1998 Ford Escort, 46,000 miles, 5 speed, 4 door. 1984 Travel Vista, 28’ fifth wheel travel trailer \$2,500 for both. OBO. Individual sale negotiable. Call Danie at 410-876-3183.

TOYOTA TACOMA truck bed liner – fits 1996-2004, \$50 OBO. Bob, 301-653-8944

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PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT to Greenbelt gentleman with developmental disability. Must love dogs and able to work nights/weekends. 267-884-5790 or camil888@comcast.net

MERCHANDISE

FOR SALE – Sterling Stairlift. Little over a year old. Like new, \$1,000 OBO. Transfer bench for bathtub, never used, tags on. Paid \$110, will sell for \$50. Call 301-441-1189.

NOTICES

FREE PIANO CONCERT and reception this Sunday at 3 p.m. near Forest Glen Metro station. The Piano Society of Greater Washington presents a concert and reception Sunday, March 11, 2012, starting 3 p.m. at the Calvary Lutheran Church (main sanctuary), 9545 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. Works by Mozart, Chopin and Brahms. Forest Glen Metro (red line) is the nearest Metro stop, a 15 min. walk via pedestrian walkway to the Ga. Ave. crossing to the church just inside the Beltway on the east side. A reception with light refreshment follows. There is no charge for Piano Society concerts; a freewill offering is appreciated. Info @ www.pianosocietyofgreaterwashington.org or call 301-793-1863.

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WELL WRITTEN – Resumes, cover letters. Appeals to insurance companies. Complaints to manufacturers, businesses. Sue, 301-474-2219

HOUSECLEANING – Over 20 years in Greenbelt area! Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or one time cleaning offered. Local references and free estimates available. Debbie, 301-459-5239

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YARD SALES

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE – Bake sale and coffee social. St. Hugh’s. Sunday, March 11 from 9-1. Enter Grenoble Hall (under church) from back parking lot. Lots of stuff.

RATES

CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 10 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 7 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770. BOXED: \$8.50 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$12.75). Deadline 10 p.m. Tuesday.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

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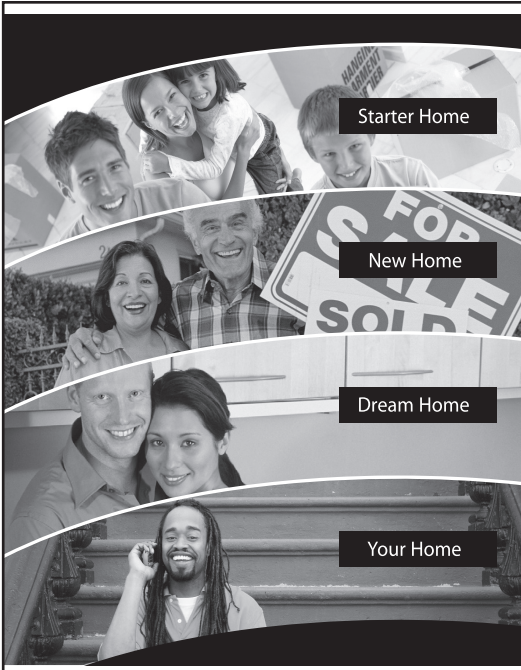
39K Ridge Rd: 2 BR block /1 Bath, priced to move with AC credit - **\$124,000**

9S Research Rd: 2 BR with decorator's touch - private yard backs to woods

39F Ridge Rd: 3 BR w/ large addition, Owner is ready to make a deal- **\$165,000**



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Our Neighbors

Our sympathy to Larry Smith and family on the death of his mother, former resident Janet B. Smith, who died on March 5, 2012.

Congratulations to:
– the University of Maryland women’s basketball team on its 10th ACC championship. It was exciting to see the photo of Greenbelt’s own Sequoia Austin, a sophomore member of the team, celebrating with star Alyssa Thomas on the front page of the Washington Post Sports Section March 5. Sequoia is known for her enthusiasm and morale building.

– Alejandra Vides-Austin, 9 (Sequoia’s little sister), who placed third in the 19th Annual Sierra Youth Cribbage Tournament in Grass Valley, Calif., on February 25. She won an engraved cribbage board and a gift certificate. Last year, Alejandra who was featured in an April 7 article, placed fifth in the tournament. Way to go!

– Greenbelt writer and teacher Jesamine Price, who appeared today on Jeopardy! Price, who teaches at American University, graduated from the University of Oxford with a degree in history and enjoys hiking and singing in the choir in her spare time.

– Kathleen McFarland

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At the Library
Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props.

Wednesday, March 14, 10:30 a.m.: Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years. Limit 20.

Thursday, March 15, 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

Space is limited; pick up a free ticket for Storytime events at the information desk. Limit 20.

Read to Rover

Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m.: Children build reading confidence by reading aloud to specially-trained therapy dogs glad to listen. Each child reads for 15 minutes. Registration is required; call 301-345-5800.

Bookkids

Tuesday, March 13, 4 p.m., children ages 8 to 12, Bookkids. Michael J. Daley’s Space Station Rat.

For more information on any of these programs or events visit the library, call 301-345-5800 or visit www.pgcmls.info.

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Brick End Unit - Large Yard 3 BR brick with extra large lot. Remodeled with modern kitchen and bathrooms. Nice! **UNDER CONTRACT**

Your Greenbelt Specialists
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A Review

Delightful, Revisionist Comedy Has Talented, Enchanting Cast

by Jim Link

Tragedies end unhappily, frequently with a corpse-littered stage; comedies end happily, frequently with a wedding or two. Wickedly clever Chris Cherry has winnowed out the gore and belligerence of Homer’s Odyssey and whipped up a magical soufflé, “Homeward Bound.” This delightful, revisionist musical comedy is based on Odysseus’ post-Trojan War, disaster-ridden, character-building voyage home to the loving arms of his faithful, resourceful, steely wife Penelope. To help or harm Odysseus and Penelope is an energetic cast of 43 teens from various local high and middle schools, who had enormous fun singing, dancing and completely charming a packed house of 200 or so at the Greenbelt Community Center on Saturday, March 3.

The Greenbelt Recreation Department will present “Homeward Bound,” the 12th annual Youth Musical, twice more this Saturday, March 10 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Like Circe’s perfume, this play is pure “enchantment.”

Cherry, who directs “Homeward Bound” and wrote its book, music and lyrics, has plenty of talented and capable help. Stefan Brodd (musical director, pianist), Nicole DeWald (production designer), Ian Brown-Gorrell (choreography and staging) and Scott Kincaid (lighting design) all make this musical scintillate.

Herewith are a few of Cherry’s revisionist highlights:

His proto-feminist Penelope (the wonderful Christin Wright) and her handmaidens sing in favor of more progressive inheritance laws so Penelope can cease coping with her boorish clutch of greedy suitors. Later the same women sing of the difficulty of being a single mother while men go off to war, keep score, spill gore – eventually women will learn to say, “Nevermore!”

When Odysseus (tall, imposing Benjamin Shaw) and his crew are invited to supper by the cannibalistic Laestrygonians, he doesn’t realize that he and his men are to be the cuisine! In “Men Are on the Menu” their queen (the wonderful and ubiquitous Kaisa Nichols-Russell) and her court sing: “We often use our guests as food; first we toast them, then we roast them; first we baste them, then we taste them.”

When Odysseus pleads with Circe (the very convincing Flavia Perrotta) to transform his porcine crew back into men, she sings “Men Are Pigs”: “They always fuss, and burp and cuss, and make a mess, and talk BS,” she avers, and coyly claims, “I make the outer frame match the inner man.”

Cherry creates a teachable moment when he has Odysseus, focused always on reaching Penelope, pretend to be gay to deflect Circe’s advances. His first mate (the hilarious Sam Goldstein) is the unwilling pawn in this ruse. Circe obligingly transforms herself



PHOTOS BY HELEN SYDAVAR

The record-breaking cast of the Greenbelt Youth Musical 2012, Homeward Bound.

into an ephebic boy to please the shocked Odysseus.

In the denouement Cherry obligingly omits the slaughter of the suitors, has Odysseus “re-marry” Penelope after winning her hand by stringing his bow and then to legislate the antiquated inheritance laws out of existence.

A second wedding is thrown in when Circe crashes the party with her newfound fiancé Telemachus – Odysseus’ son! (the filial yet rebellious Isaac Solomon).

So many other actors deserve kudos but I shall limit myself to mentioning Kaisa Nichols-Russell once more. This enviable young lass plays the Laestrygonian queen (she’s a man-eater!), Helen of Troy (the world’s most beautiful woman), one of the bewitching Sirens, and one of the deceased queens Odysseus encounters in the underworld – three queens and one mermaid in one night’s work!

Congratulations to Kaisa and to the whole talented crew!



Odysseus (Ben Shaw, right) arrives home in time to rescue Penelope (Christin Wright, center) from the suitors (Aaron Solmon, Jonas Ventimiglia, left) as the maids (Molly Jankowski, Sara Guerrieri) look on.



Prince Telemachus (Isaac Solomon, seated left) visits King Menelaus (James Fahey) and the Seven Lovely Daughters of Helen of Troy (Elaina Perry, Kristen Beauchamp, Annina Commins, Elena Shipley and Chloe Yetter). Walter Commins as Prince Megapenthes is partially obscured.

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